

REMARKS

In view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks, Applicants respectfully request reexamination of the present application. No claims have been amended, Claim 26 has been cancelled and no new claims have been added.

Applicants have amended the specification to insert a priority claim to commonly-owned International Application PCT/US03/012520 filed on April 23, 2003 and designating the United States of America, which claims priority to U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 60/374,879, filed on April 23, 2002. Applicants are also submitting herewith a Petition to Correct the Domestic Priority Claim as required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.78(a)(3), along with the appropriate fee.

In view of the cancellation of Claim 26, also submitted herewith is a Request for Deletion of An Inventor Under 37 C.F.R. 1.48(b) to delete inventor David Bryant from the application. Thus, the inventive entity of the pending claims is now Clement Hiel and George Korzeniowski.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

At page 3 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejected each of the pending Claims 16, 20, 26 and 29-35 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over PCT Patent Publication No. WO 2003/091008 by Korzeniowski et al. ("Korzeniowski et al."). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

As is noted above, Applicants have corrected the priority claim of the present application to claim priority to PCT/US03/12520 (ie., Korzeniowski et al.) and to U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 60/374,879. For at least this reason, Korzeniowski et al. is not a prior art reference with respect to the present application.

Further, Applicants have deleted inventor Bryant from the present application. Therefore, the present application lists the same inventive entity as Korzeniowski et al. and therefore is not "by another" as is required to support a rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) via 35 U.S.C. § 102(e).

In view of the foregoing, removal of this rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) is requested.

Applicants do not believe that any additional fees are due with regard to the entry of this paper. However, if any fees are due, please debit those fees from Deposit Account No. 50-1419.

Applicants believe that all pending claims are in condition for allowance and such disposition is respectfully requested. In the event that a telephone conversation would further prosecute and or expedite allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

MARSH FISCHMANN & BREYFOGLE LLP

By: /David F Dockery Reg No 34323/

David F. Dockery
Registration No. 34,323
8055 E. Tufts Avenue, Suite 450
Denver, CO 80237
(303) 770-0051

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